Depending upon the availability of power and in order to bridge the gap between demand and supply, statutory power cuts/restrictions and time to time load sheddings are imposed by respective State Govts./SEBs. However, while imposing power cuts/restrictions sufficient care is taken to ensure that the requirement for agricultural sector depending upon weather conditions, supply to essential consumers and minimum requirement of core sector industries i.e. coal, steel, cement are adequately met.

In order to make optimal use of the available power resources in the country and to improve the overall availability of power and generation capacity in the country, following measures are being taken;

(i) Encouragement to private sector for investment in power sector.

(ii) Renovation and modernisation (R&M) of existing generating stations.

(iii) Coordinated operation of hydro/thermal/ nuclear and gas turbine power stations in the regional power system.

(iv) Promotion of regional integrated operation and encouraging inter-state/regional power transfers. The details of inter-state and inter-regional energy exchanges during 1997-98 and April, are given in attached Statement.

(v) Staggering of weekly off/recess hours of industrial consumers and regulation of power supply to agricultural consumers through grouping restriction.

(vi) Augmentation of transmission and transformation capability in the power system.

(vii) Reduction of transmission and distribution losses.

Statement

(I) Details of Inter-State Energy Exchanges

(All figures in MU)

Region	1997-98	April '98
Northern	1825.7	123.8
Western	Nil	Nil
Southern	Nil	Nil
Eastern	886.5	80.9
North-Eastern	171.2	3
Total	2883.4	207.7

(II) Details of Inter-Regional Energy Exchanges

(All figures in MU)

Region		1997-98	April '98
From	To		
Northern	Western	1154:2	212.2
	Eastern	5.1	Nil
	Southern	Nil	65.2
Western	Northern	377.3	4.4
	Southern	520.9	44.7
	Eastern	1.1	Nil
Southern	Western	40.6	0.4
Eastern	Western (*)	1200	109.2
	Southern (*)	820.2	208.3
	N. Eastern (*)	454.4	33.8
N. Eastern	Eastern	23.2	1.7
	Total	4597	679.9

Note (*) : This is in accordance with allocations made by GOI from unallocated output of NTPC stations located in Eastern Region.

[Translation]

Koyal Karo Hydro Electric Power Project

788. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the formalities have been completed and the necessary amount released for the commencement of work on the Koyal Karo Hydro Electric power project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely time by which the work on the project would commence?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) The 710 MW Koyal Karo HE Project in Bihar was entrusted to National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) for execution in August, 1980. Due to agitation by the local people and protracted litigation it was not possible to take up construction activities of the project.

The Central Empowered Committee constituted by the Planning Commission had recommended shelving of the project and freezing of further expenditure on the project. However, having regard to the need for providing peaking power in the Eastern Region, approval of the Government is being sought to lift the ban on taking up the project and also to seek investment approval. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 2377.82 crores at March '98 price level. The project will take seven and half years to complete from the date of start of work.